

Special Education Programs

Information, News and Events

February 2017



Next Sped Director Call:

Feb. 21, 2017—10 a.m. CST

Connect through Skype for Business at:

[Join Skype Meeting](#)

Direct dial: 1(866)410-8397

Participant code: 1286289700

Agenda Items:

- State Performance Plan

STAFF:

[Linda Turner](#), Director

[Wendy Trujillo](#), Assistant Director

[Rebecca Cain](#), Program Specialist

[Angel Corrales](#), Data Manager

[Elizabeth Jehangiri](#), 619 Coordinator

[Jamie Morris](#), Program Specialist

[Ben Morrison](#), Program Specialist

[Beth Schiltz](#), Program Specialist

[Ambrea Sikes](#), Program Specialist

[Merle Doolittle](#), Secretary

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

Nelson Mandela

Sped Program Highlights

Reading Passages Accommodation forms for text-to-speech or read aloud for the Smarter Balanced assessment are due Feb 15 (post marked by Feb 15).

New Transition Resource Guide. The Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services has published A Transition Guide to Postsecondary Education and Employment for Students and Youth with Disabilities. This guide advances our efforts in ensuring that all students and youth with disabilities are equipped with the skills and knowledge to be engaged in the 21st century workforce.

Federal Program Highlights

The Office of Special Education Programs released an updated **Dear Colleague Letter (DCL) related to Preschool Least Restrictive Environments (LRE)**

The guidance provided in the DCL covers: Key Statutory and Regulatory Requirements, Preschool Placement Options, Reporting Educational Environments Data for Preschool Children with Disabilities, and Use of IDEA Part B Funds for Preschool Children with Disabilities.

DOE Program Highlights

Smarter Balanced Educator Opportunities 2017

The South Dakota Department of Education is seeking qualified educators to support the following Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium activities in 2017. Activities include: item mapping and playlist connections, item authoring for ELA and mathematics, item review for content, fairness, and accessibility, range finding and data review, and annotating student work. Educators can submit applications until Feb. 17.

Professional Development

(click on the links to go to registration site)

Implementing the South Dakota Standards and Grade-level Outcomes for K-12 Physical Education.

—The School Health Program in the South Dakota Departments of Education and Health will offer 2 workshop(s). The workshops will be held at the Denny Sanford Premier Center, Sioux Falls, SD on each of the following dates.

- 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. on **Thursday, April 20, 2017** for the Elementary Level (grades K-5)
- 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. on **Thursday, April 27, 2017** for the Secondary Level (grades 6-8 and 9-12)

The target audience for the workshop(s) are health and physical education teachers, adaptive physical education teachers, special education teachers, para-professionals, parents, curriculum directors, and other administrators. Registration is limited to 40 participants per workshop.

[Click here](#) for more details.

Contact Karen.Keyser@state.sd.us for additional assistance.

Battelle Developmental –2 (BDI-2) Training

— The Department of Education will be hosting a 2-day Battelle Developmental Inventory 2 (BDI-2) training on April 5th– and 6th in Rapid City. The primary focus will be on the administration, scoring, and interpretation of the BDI-2.

Participants will learn about the history of why the BDI-2 was created, the process of creating an assessment tool, the organization of the tool (domains and subdomains), as well as options for scoring and reporting data using the Data Manager and Mobile Data Solution.

A second day has been added to build more foundational knowledge, review real items, practice administering items, and review of child profiles.

Catch the Wave

A one-day conference designed specifically for high school students who have a disability and are considering post-secondary education at a college or technical institute. Pre-registration is required through the TSLP coordinators.

- Mitchell—March 29
- Sioux Falls—April 4
- Aberdeen—April 5
- Watertown—April 20
- Rapid City—April 27

2017 Transition Summer Institute

The Transition Summer Institute will have a combination of general and breakout sessions. Featured speaker: Ellen Condon, Project Director of University of Montana's Rural Institute on Disability. Other presenters include teachers, parents, agencies, post-secondary disability coordinators, students, school psychologist, and others.

- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)
- Person Center Thinking – Beginners and Advanced
- Employment Tips
- Writing Transition IEPs
- Behavior/Motivation
- Post-Secondary Education
- Utilizing Data to Improve Outcomes
- Student Panel
- Parent Involvement
- Functional Curriculum
- Native American Virtues/Leadership
- Career and Technical Education
- Pre-Employment Transition Services
- Adult Agency Connections

SAVE THE DATE

2017 MTSS Summer Conference with Randy Sprick and Jill Jackson, June 28-29 in Chamberlain. Graduate credit available. See flyer for more information. Registration coming soon.



Sped Program Feature Presentation

Special Ed Connection!

Want to keep up-to-date of changes and trends in special education? Or maybe you're looking for professional development teaching strategies or tools related to RTI, PBIS, Transition Services, Early Childhood or IEP best practices. These are just a few of the many resources Special Ed Connections has to offer.

Their **Funding Finder** feature is a great way for schools, educators, and families to research and locate more than 100 grant and/or funding opportunities related to special education.

NOTE! All districts have access to a full login for administrators and a limited access login for educators. To obtain your access please call 1-800-341-7874 or visit their [website](#) today!